

the Union. It was however mailed so late that it was not received until after the meeting had adjourned. Mr. Bailey was of course, so informed; but has received no "official" report of action for the simple reason that his communication cannot be even presented to the Union for consideration, until the 1915 meeting. It is needless to say that any properly prepared proposal to amend the By-Laws, received prior to any meeting of the Union, will be given, as it always has been given, careful and courteous consideration.

Mr. Bailey says of the Associates "a large percentage have been taken into the Union merely for the payment of their \$3. dues and not with any idea of strengthening the Club scientifically." He would we think have a different conception of the Associate membership if he glanced at the early history of the Union. The society was of course started with but one grade and could readily have limited its membership strictly to ornithologists of high scientific attainments as has been done by many similar organizations, leaving the rank and file of the subscribers to its publications entirely outside of the society. It was thought better however to take in these subscribers as "Associates" without any additional fee, and to open to them all the social and scientific privileges of membership. The Union has thus helped to develop many an ornithologist who would not otherwise have taken up the study seriously, and we have reason to think that the vast majority of Associates are in entire agreement with the plan.

In conclusion we must take exception to Mr. Bailey's statement that dissatisfaction with the A. O. U. By-Laws when expressed in 'The Auk' has been "sidetracked" and dropped with but small notice and courtesy. We think he made this statement without due consideration since the only expression of the kind that we have found (Auk, 1908, p. 494) was considered and answered with the greatest courtesy by the Editors.—WITMER STONE.]

NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. THEODORE NICHOLAS GILL, a retired fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, died in Washington, D. C., on September 25, 1914. Dr. Gill was born in New York City on March 21, 1837, and after completing his education came to Washington in 1860 to fill a position in the Columbian (now George Washington) University, with which institution he was connected for fifty years as professor, successively, of physics, natural history, and zoölogy. He was also assistant librarian of the Congressional Library, 1867 to 1875, and one of the past presidents of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

It was however, in connection with the Smithsonian Institution that Dr. Gill is best known and here he conducted the studies and investigations that made his name familiar in scientific circles throughout the world.

Ichthyology was his specialty and it was in that field that he won his greatest renown. His publications were by no means limited to the fishes however. His learning was broad, his knowledge of literature enormous, and he was in every sense a philosophical naturalist, one of the last of a group, the like of which, in these days of specialization, we shall probably not see again.

Dr. Gill was elected a Fellow of the A. O. U. at the first meeting in 1883, and was a prominent figure at all the meetings held in Washington. He was a member of the Committee on revision of the A.O.U. Code of Nomenclature and was ever ready with helpful suggestions in matters of nomenclature and taxonomy with which the Union has had to deal. Most of his ornithological publications dealt with matters of taxonomy in connection with the classification of the vertebrates in general, although during his editorship of 'The Osprey' (1899-1902) he wrote upon a great variety of topics.

To how many of us does Dr. Gill's name bring up memories of the old Smithsonian building, where he had a room, and in the library of which he could usually be found engaged in some literary research, but never too busy to discuss with his friends the problems with which they were struggling, or to turn to the young naturalist with helpful words of advice or reminiscences of the past.

By all visitors to the scientific centers of the national capital Dr. Gill's cheerful greeting and sympathetic interest will be sadly missed, and in still greater degree by his associates in Washington.

A biographer will be appointed by the president of the A. O. U. to prepare an adequate sketch of Dr. Gill's life and work which will later appear in 'The Auk.'

THE following communication from the Chairman of the local Committee of Arrangements for the San Francisco Meeting of the A. O. U., May 18-20, 1915, will be read with interest by all members of the Union. This however will not make the meeting a success. A large number of the readers must make up their minds to be present at the meeting, to enjoy the pleasures and hospitality which Mr. Mailliard and his fellow members of the Cooper Club offer, and to make them feel that their efforts have not been in vain. Many members in the east can make the trip by arranging their plans now, and even though it puts them to some little inconvenience it is their duty to California and the A. O. U. to make such sacrifice and to help to make this the most notable meeting that the Union has ever held.

Mr. Mailliard's announcement follows:

THE 1915 MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

On February 20th, 1915, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition will be formally opened. The stage is already set, and only the finishing touches remain to be applied. Already the wonderful color scheme is a thing of beauty and a joy to the sight-seers who throng the grounds even

before a single exhibit is in place. The great trouble in the countries across the Atlantic may lessen the exhibits and the number of visitors from that part of the world, but this will be more than made up by the even more interesting exhibits of the Oriental nations and the great number of Americans who have at this late day determined to "see America first!"

Yet it is not the exposition that will be the greatest attraction to the ornithologist. There have been a number of expositions in the United States, and most of you have seen more or less of them. So it is an old story. But there will be opportunities to visit this State under conditions never before brought about, and which will not prevail again for many years to come.

We have been called a hospitable people here in California. I do not know. Perhaps we are. We were brought up in the customs of a new country, where habitations were few and far between. If you reached a house at meal time, or at night, you tied your horse and entered to find a welcome. You were offered what there was, much or little as might be, and you accepted in the spirit in which it was offered. Perhaps we have not gotten over this. In 1915 we are going to be on our mettle to be hospitable, and we are going to give a welcome to our neighbors and friends that will linger in their memories as long as they may live — and may our friends live long!

No, it is not the Exposition that we wish to call especially to your attention, it is *California*. You may have seen many expositions but you have not seen many Californias. Most of you have not seen ours. From the summit of Tamalpais we want you to see the sun set in the great Pacific, and from this point of vantage to watch the lights of San Francisco glow and glimmer as the stars appear, and to see the same sun rise over the Sierras, if you have the energy to be up so early.

We want you to see the Farallon Islands, only a couple of hours run from the Exposition grounds, with their wonderful seabird life, the thousands of California Murres on their nests, the Cormorants busy in their rookeries, Tufted Puffins peeping from their holes, not to mention Gulls, Cassin's Auklets, Rock Wrens, etc.

We want you to visit the Los Banos breeding grounds, so well represented in the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, where you can see many varieties of ducks, herons and shore birds building their nests and raising their young on the swamp lands and among the tules. We want to show you our Humid Coast Belt, with its characteristic forms of bird life, and only a few miles inland our desert and semi-desert areas where water brings about a revolution, and where Nature asserts her will, insisting upon desert forms predominating but a short distance from where are to be found those darker forms which moisture with lower temperatures seem to create.

We want you to see Lake Tahoe, with its wonderful scenery, surrounded by snowy peaks where breed the Gray-crowned Leucosticte and the California Pine Grosbeak, and for those of you who like it the magnificent

fishing the lakes and streams of the Sierras afford. We want you to see the beauty and grandeur of our unrivalled Yosemite, and to walk with you beneath our great redwoods which were old when our forefathers landed on the eastern coast.

We have more to show you than most of you imagine, and under conditions never before existing as far as rates of travel, good fellowship, a wish to welcome all the world and the desire to please our guests are concerned, to say nothing of the fact that there will be gathered here in various conventions of numerous bodies, many of the world's greatest minds. Traveling rates will be low, hotel keepers have agreed not to raise their prices above the everyday mark, accommodations will be ample, good, and at rates to meet one's purse, while the desire to make the Exposition a success, rather than to make large profits out of those who come, seems to prevail.

The meeting will be held May 18th to 20th, this being chosen as being the best average date at which to see our bird life in the nesting season, which really commences in February and lasts until August! Let us all do our best to make this meeting a grand success, to form new friendships, and to make of it a pleasant memory that will never leave our hearts. Each who comes can do his or her share to make the A. O. U. meeting in California something to look back upon with pleasure, and to talk of around the fire on snowy winter nights.

Come all who can, yet bear in mind, one and all, that while we have warm weather in the interior of California, San Francisco is a *cool spot* where light overcoats and wraps are always in order and may be needed at any moment!

Details as to rates of travel, hotel expenses, interesting side trips, etc., will be furnished later.

JOSEPH MAILLIARD,
Chairman Committee on Arrangements.
San Francisco, Cal.

AFTER preparing the note in the last issue of 'The Auk,' on beneficial effect of the new tariff in stopping the importation of Rhea plumage and thereby putting an end to a trade that threatened the extinction of this splendid bird, we were astonished to learn that by a decision of the Treasury Department, the Rhea was excepted from the operation of the law. The official notice states: "It appears from the best information obtainable by the department that the so-called Rhea is, in fact, an ostrich, and the feathers of such birds may, therefore, be admitted without requiring proof that the plumage was taken from domestic birds." With the wealth of technical knowledge so easily obtainable from the scientific departments of the government it is rather remarkable that the Treasury Department should have taken upon itself the settlement of such an important ornithological question.

However open to criticism its action in this respect may be, its willingness to promptly admit an error is exceedingly praiseworthy, and we are grati-

fied to learn from a subsequent order that: "Further investigation by the department has shown that the rhea is not properly classed as an ostrich put is in fact a wild bird, the plumage of which should be prohibited importation."

FULL NAMES OF AUTHORS IN 'THE AUK.'—In preparing the general Index of 'The Auk' published in 1907 the committee in charge of the work endeavored to give names of authors in full but the requisite information proved impossible to obtain in many cases and consequently about 170 names appeared in more or less incomplete form. The committee which is indexing the volumes from 1901 to 1910 inclusive, in following the plan of the former Index, has made special efforts to secure this information and has succeeded in obtaining the full names of nearly all the authors mentioned in the recent volumes and has also secured about 130 of those which were incomplete in the former Index.

Some 46 names are still needed—about nine for the recent volumes and about 37 for the earlier ones—as shown by the following list. In order to facilitate the search for the desired data each author's name is followed by the name of the State from which the note was written or that of the author's last known address and a reference to the volume and page of 'The Auk' in which the article appeared.

Allen, Charles N.	'81, 145	Lane, Ambrose A. (Engl.)	'97, 417
Atkins, John W. (Mich.)	'99, 272	Lee, Oswin A. J. (Engl.)	'97, 106
Banks, James W. (N. B.)	'84, 95	Lewis, Lillian W. (N. Y.)	'05, 314
Batty, Joseph H. (Mass.)	'06, 356	Livermore, John R. (R. I.)	'94, 177
Berry, Mabel C. (N. H.)	'96 342	Mitchell, Robert H. (Tenn.)	'94, 327
Bulley, Reginald H. (Ohio)	'86, 277	Moran, Daniel E. (N. Y.)	'82, 52
Buri, Dr. Rudolph O. (Switz)	'01, 286	Nowotny, Dr. (Austria)	'98, 28
Burton, William R. (Fla.)	'04, 125	Palmer, E. DeL. (Calif.)	'94, 78
Collins, W. H. (Mich.)	'80, 61	Park, J. T. (Tenn.)	'93, 205
Doan, William D. (Penn.)	'90, 197	Pitcairn, William G. (Penn.)	'08, 232
Downer, E. D. (N. Y.)	'99, 355	Pollard, Evelyn H. (Engl.)	'01, 207
Emmet, R. T. (N. Y.)	'88, 108	Reagan, Albert B. (Utah)	'08, 462
Fowler, H. Gilbert (N. Y.)	'78, 85	Sargent, Harry B. (N. Y.)	'93, 369
Fraser, J. T. (N. Y.)	'84, 293	Schenckling-Prevot, C. (Ger.)	'95, 186
F., W.	'03, 94	Smith, G. S. (Mass.)	'81, 56
Gormley, M. H. (Wash.)	'88, 424	Swallow, C. W. (Ore.)	'91, 396
Harris, George E. (N. Y.)	'88, 320	Sweiger, Mrs. Jacob L. (Conn.)	'08, 105
Howley, James P. (Nfd.)	'84, 309	Taylor, W. Edgar (Neb.)	'89, 332
Ingraham, D. P. (Colo.)	'97, 403	Walker, Mary L. (Scotl.)	'90, 198
Johnson, Lorenzo N. (Ill.)	'89, 275	Welsh, Frank R. (Penn.)	'84, 391
Kermode, Philip M. C. (Engl.)	'83, 229	Whitlock, F. B. (Engl.)	'97, 422
Kinnison, George W. (Fla.)	'99, 57	Wilson, Bertha L. (Minn.)	'98, 100
Koumly, Pirmine M. (Kans.)	'93, 367	Wilson, Dr. Thomas J. (N. Y.)	'78, 85

As it is desirable to have the full names of all contributors to 'The Auk,' readers who can furnish any of the missing names or can suggest how they may be obtained are requested to notify the editor or to communicate with the undersigned.

T. S. PALMER.

1939 Biltmore St., Washington, D. C.

MR. Louis Agassiz Fuertes, at the request of the Council of the A. O. U., and with the advice of a committee appointed by the President, kindly prepared a new cover design for 'The Auk' which appeared for the first time on the number for January, 1913. As to the accuracy of drawings of extinct species the poet has written:

"This we have for comfort sweet
Should doctors disagree,
Nobody lives who knew the beast,
And there are no more to see.
So if they do not like its looks,
What can they do about it?
Our guess is just as good as their's
So if they scoff, we'll scout it!"

Notwithstanding the logic of this statement, the Council at the last meeting appointed a new committee to confer with Mr. Fuertes in regard to preparing another design, which should follow more closely the general style of the original vignette. Mr. Fuertes has generously complied with the request and the result appears on the cover of the present number. Which drawing is the better portrait of the Great Auk as it appeared in life, we are, like the poet, unable to say; but the present one is both artistic, and accurate in detail, while it conforms more nearly to the conventional idea of the famous bird.

A NEW edition of the Naturalists' Directory has just been published by S. E. Cassino, Salem, Mass. This directory is invaluable to naturalists since it is the means of bringing together students and collectors in all parts of the world through correspondence. The directory contains an alphabetical list of English speaking professional and amateur naturalists in all parts of the world, also a list of scientific societies and periodicals. The price of the Directory is \$2.50 in Cloth Binding and \$2.00 in Paper Binding; sent postpaid. As only a limited edition has been printed it is advisable for any one wishing a copy to order at once.

THERE will be an exhibit of pictures of our common birds at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, January 15th to 29th inclusive followed by a sale exhibition at the Katz Gallery, 103 West 74th St. These pictures show the Robin, Blue Jay, Oriole, Wood Thrush and other birds we see about our homes and that we all know and have come to love. The birds are pictured life size, singly and in family groups, sometimes nesting or courting, often surrounded by apple bloom, golden rod, or wood lilies, flowers they might be found among, or the bright leaves of April or October, or the snow of winter. Seventy-five or more water colors large and small will be shown, all exhibited for the first time. The purpose of the pictures is to present the beauty of just our commonest home and dooryard birds.